

*The CASE of several of His Majesties Loyal Subjects,
very much oppressed, contrary to the Laws of this Land
as they are advised, humbly represented to the Honoura-
ble the Knights, Citizens, and Burgesles, in Par-
liament assembled.*

1. **B**Y Act of Parliament, in the Year 1663. 400 Hackney Coachmen were Li-
censed to ply in and about the Cities of *London* and *Westminster* during that
Parliament, and untill the first Sessions of the next Parliament and no longer ex-
cept continued.

2. The said Parliament being Dissolved, and another Called and also Dissolved,
and nothing done in that Affair, the Act expired.

3. We, the number of 100 Ancient Coachmen, who have served persons of
Honour, and Gentlemen of Quality, all of us Loyal Subjects, and many of us suf-
ferers for our Loyalty and Affections to King *Charles* the First of ever Blessed Me-
mory, presented our Petition to the then next Parliament, praying for the reasons
following to be added to the 400 formerly Lycenced.

Reasons. 1. That the Buildings and the Inhabitants were so much increased that
there was more occasion for 500 then for 400 when the Act was made.

2. That we being Ancient Coachmen bred up only to that Imploy, and had
no other way to get Bread for our selves and poor Families.

3. That we supposing that after the expiration of the aforesaid Act of Parliament
the same liberty might extend to us that all other Coachmen had, did lay out all
our little Substance in buying Coach, Horses, and other Conveniencies for our
Calling, and accordingly followed our Calling, untill about *May* 1683, we were by
an Act of Common-Council prohibited from letting our Coaches to Hire in the Ci-
ty and Liberties of *London*, and had several of our Coaches seized and carried to
the *Green-yard*, and forced to redeem them with Fines, sometimes 20 s others
40 s and some 50 s and some have paid 5 l. in ten days time: Others have been
fold by them both Coach and Horses, according to the will and pleasure of those
Arbitrary Law-makers: Some of our persons imprisoned, and there kept for the
space of three months; others till they could get Bail, and then put Fines upon
them as they please.

4. And by the exercise of this cruelty upon us, the Coachmen pretended to be
Licensed by the Common-Council, did joyn together, and appoint 27 of their
number to meet, and hold Consults for raising of money amongst themselves, to
suppress and ruine us in our Calling in the City, and Liberty of *Westminster* also,
and did with money hire men, and keep us from our Imploy, until we did make
our Agrievance known by our humble Petition to his most Gracious Majesty King
Charles II. of ever-blessed Memory; and the better to effect their design to ruine
us, they have raised at several times 3200 l. and upwards.

5. and lastly, We the oppressed have to our ruins stood several Suits with the said
400, and in all the said Suits cast them: but now our small Substance being spent,
and they having a great Stock of Money, we must suffer under their Prosecution,
unless prevented by the Goodness of this Parliament.

*Wherefore we most humbly beseech your Honours to take the premisses into your se-
rious consideration, that when our Petition shall be presented unto your consideration,
to vouchsafe us relief according as to your Wisdoms shall seem meet; and we and all
the rest, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.*

Tho. Cadman, } *Lewis Morris.*
Tho. Whittle, } *Tho. Genings.*
Peter Welch, }